

Applicant(s): **WRIGHT, JOHN T. M.**

Docket No.

GENSEE-20A

08/601,803

12/15/96

LAYCK, J.

3311

(Identify type of correspondence)

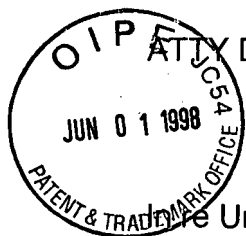
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PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re United States Patent Application:

Serial No.: 08/601,803

) Art Unit : 3311

Filed: 12/15/96

)

Inventor(s): WRIGHT, JOHN T. M.

) Examiner LAYCK, J.

Title: LOCAL CARDIAC IMMOBILIZATION SURGICAL DEVICE

AMENDMENT AFTER ALLOWANCE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §312

Hon. Asst. Commissioner for Patents
Box Amendment
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Entry of the following after allowance is respectfully requested. As more fully set forth in the accompanying Petition, the prior art filed herewith and hence the need for this amendment did not come to the Applicant's attention until this week.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please rewrite Claim 1 to include the limitations of Claim 2, as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) In a surgical method comprising making an incision through the thoracic wall of a patient, and performing a surgical procedure proximate the surface of the heart, the improvement comprising immobilizing a portion of the surface of the heart upon which surgery is to be performed by temporarily securing to the surface of the heart a cardiac immobilizing member that at least partially surrounds the portion of the surface of the heart upon which the surgery is to be performed thereby substantially fixing the position of the cardiac immobilizing device, the steps [step] of securing the immobilizing member comprising applying a partial vacuum to the surface of the heart and applying a layer of physiologically compatible adhesive between the cardiac immobilizing member and the surface tissue of the heart.